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# **THEORETICAL FOUNDATION OF HIGH-FREQUENCY MICROWAVE MODULATION OF LASER DIODES WITH SHORT EXTERNAL CAVITY**

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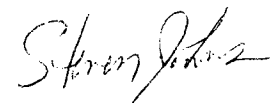
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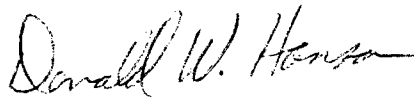
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## Abstract

The dynamic properties of semiconductor laser diodes are significantly affected by external optical feedback. In this paper we present theoretical and simulated dynamics for a laser diode with a short external cavity. We assume that only the emitted photons are feedback only once by the external cavity. In the unstable regime of short external cavity laser diode operation high frequency oscillations ( $>20$  GHz) exist as a result of self twin-mode locking. This instability corresponds to equalization of the cavity loss for the main mode (the lasing frequency) and sidemode. We will show the critical feedback parameters and the frequencies of self twin-mode locking oscillations in these regimes of high frequency microwave oscillations. As will be shown, both the Fabry-Perot and vertical cavity surface emitting lasers exhibit such microwave oscillations. The frequency-modulated microwave oscillation will be useful for all-optical high-speed transmitters.

## 1.0 Introduction

Semiconductor laser diodes exposed to optical feedback have been found to improve laser frequency stability and to narrow laser linewidth. Optical feedback, however, can also significantly change LD (laser diode) dynamics.

It also has been theoretically and experimentally demonstrated that the effects optical feedback vary with the external cavity length and with power feedback ratio. For long ( $\sim 1$  cm and more) external cavity LD, these changes lead to chaotic self-modulation of laser light with dramatic increase in laser spectrum width and noise, instead of line narrowing ("coherence-collapse" effect [1]). It occurs as a result of sustained relaxation oscillations of laser output, when feedback coefficient exceeds some very low critical value about -40 dB and extends over several decades. This "coherence-collapse" regime was shown to be the result of a combined effect of the LD relaxation resonance and EC resonances [2]. For the short external cavity LD (SEC LD), the EC mode spacing is much larger than the LD relaxation frequency [4]. The larger mode spacing lead to avoid coherence-collapse.

In the unstable regime, a SEC LD exhibits high-frequency instability associated with locking of compound cavity modes for relative high values of coupling coefficients. This effect enables to achieve frequencies of optical current-controlled oscillators in excess of 20 GHz.

We can use SEC LD to generate tunable microwave oscillators with frequency modulation capacities. The frequency can be modulated by several ways. From our simulation result, we can modulate the frequency by changing optical feedback and the external cavity length.

In the following, we focus first on the theory of SEC LD including rate equation, steady state analysis and linear stability analysis. We introduce the Lang and Kobayashi rate equations for the SEC LD [3]. The steady state analysis shows that for each state of lasing the "steady-state" condition of instability occurs when the cavity losses for the main and side mode are equal [4]. Also, the linear stability analysis can predict the dynamic instability of laser operation caused by the twin-mode competition.

Furthermore, we use computer simulation to prove the instability. First, Fabry-Perot laser diodes with 200  $\mu$ m cavity length is used for computer simulation. Second, we use vertical-cavity surface emitting lasers (VCSEL) with 1  $\mu$ m cavity length for simulation. The structure of VCSEL is shown in Fig. 1 [5].

Compared with long cavity length, the advantage of the VCSEL is, due to its short cavity length, the longitudinal cavity mode spacing (being equal to  $c/2d$ ,  $d$  is the cavity length) is very large. In fact, it is possible to have a mode spacing larger than the gain bandwidth of the active material. Thus, it can be inherently single longitudinal mode.

Finally, our results are summerized.

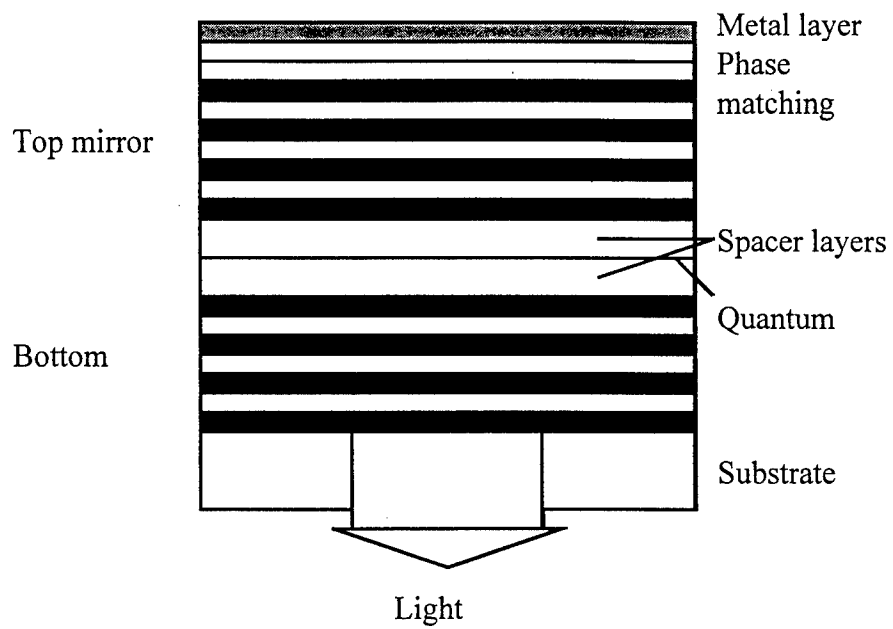


Fig.1 Schematic cross-section view of VCSEL structure considered here.  
considered here.

## 2.0 Theory

### 2.1 Rate Equation

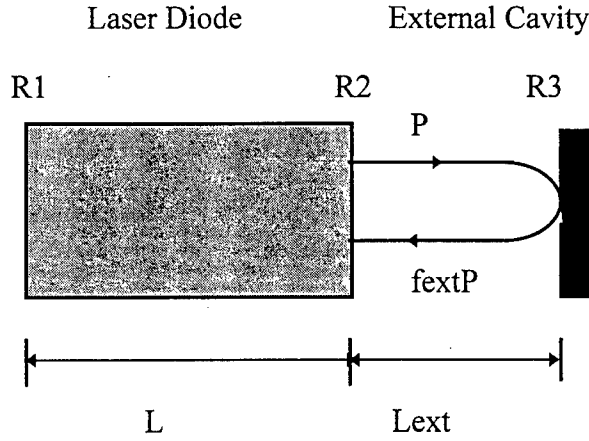


Fig. 2 Schematic of a laser diode with an external cavity

The schematic of a semiconductor laser diode with an external cavity is shown in Fig.2 . R1 and R2 are the reflectivity of the laser facets and R3 is the reflectivity of the external mirror.  $L$  and  $L_{ext}$  are the lengths of the laser diode cavity and the EC;  $f_{ext}$  is the feedback. We will consider  $\tau\omega_R \ll 1$  , where  $\tau = 2L_{ext}/c$  is the photon round-trip time in EC and  $\omega_R$  is the angular frequency of the relaxation oscillation .

Here we use Lang and Kobayashi rate equations for the SEC LD. There are several assumptions for these rate equations. First, the solitary laser is assumed to be single mode, which implies  $\tau \gg \tau_0$  ( $\tau_0 = 2Ln_g/c$  , is the photon round-trip time in the LD-cavity.  $n_g$  is the group refraction index of the LD.) ; second,  $f_{ext} \ll 1$  which means only one round-trip of the emitted photons is significant inside the EC. Then we arrive at the following two rate equations :

$$\frac{dE(t)}{dt} = j \left[ \Omega_s - \Omega + \frac{\alpha}{2} g_N (N - N_s) \right] E(t) + \frac{1}{2} \left( g - \frac{1}{\tau_p} \right) E(t) + \kappa E(t - \tau) \exp(-i\Omega\tau) \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{dN}{dt} = J - \frac{N}{\tau_{sp}} - gS \quad (2)$$

where  $g = g(N)(1 - \kappa_p P)$  is the nonlinear gain where the linear gain is given by  $g(N) = g_N (N - N_s)$ ;  $P$  is the output power.

$\Omega_s$  is the resonance optical frequency of the LD without EC.

$\alpha$  is the linewidth enhancement factor;  $g_N$  is the differential gain.



$\tau_p$  is the photon lifetime in the LD cavity.

$\tau_{sp}$  is the carrier lifetime due to spontaneous and nonradiative recombination.

$S = |E(t)|^2$  is the photon number in the LD cavity. (output power  $P \sim S$ )

$J$  is the carrier injection rate.

The feedback parameter is given by

$$\kappa = \frac{C_l}{\tau_0},$$

where parameter  $C_l$  which is a function of the facet and external mirror reflectivity  $R_2$  and  $R_3$

$$C_l = (1 - R_2) \sqrt{\frac{R_3}{R_2}}$$

is a measure of the coupling strength between the two cavities.

The relation between output power ( $P$ ) and photon number ( $S$ ) is discussed more in detail in the appendix A [6].

## **2.2 Steady-state analysis**

Stationary lasing conditions can be obtained from (1), by setting  $E$  to be constant. The real and the imaginary parts of the equation, when they are separated, can be written as

$$g - \frac{1}{\tau_p} = -2\kappa \cos \Omega \tau \quad (3)$$

$$\Omega_s - \Omega + \frac{\alpha}{2} \Delta g - \kappa \sin \Omega \tau = 0 \quad (4)$$

In the absence of feedback, the threshold gain  $g_{th}$  is determined by

$$g_{th} = \frac{1}{\tau_p} \quad (5)$$

Inserting (5) into (3) leads to a threshold gain shift

$$\Delta g(\Omega) = g - g_{th} = -2\kappa \cos \Omega \tau \quad (6)$$

To find possible frequencies of lasing  $\Omega_0$ , insert (6) into (4); that gives

$$\Omega_s - \Omega = \kappa\alpha\cos\Omega\tau + \kappa\sin\Omega\tau \quad (7)$$

or

$$(\Omega_s - \Omega)\tau = \kappa\tau(\alpha\cos\Omega\tau + \sin\Omega\tau) = \kappa\tau\sqrt{1+\alpha^2} \sin(\Omega\tau + \theta)$$

$$(\Omega_s - \Omega)\tau = C\sin(\Omega\tau + \theta), \quad (8)$$

where

$$\theta = \arctan \alpha \quad (9)$$

and the feedback coefficient C is given by

$$C = \kappa\tau\sqrt{1+\alpha^2}. \quad (10)$$

The number of external-cavity modes is determined by the parameter C. For  $C < 1$  only one mode exists, while for  $C > 1$  there exists two or possibly more modes. For  $C \gg 1$  the total number of modes is approximately given by  $C/(\pi+1)$  (Fig.3 shows the solutions when increasing  $\kappa\tau$ ). Furthermore for  $C > 1$ , only half of the solutions, corresponding to  $d\Omega/d\Omega_s > 0$  are stable with respect to slow fluctuations, representing, thus, possible frequency of stationary lasing.  $\Omega_0$  denotes the possible frequency of lasing. Inserting  $\Omega_0$  into  $\Omega$  of equation (6) and (8), gives:

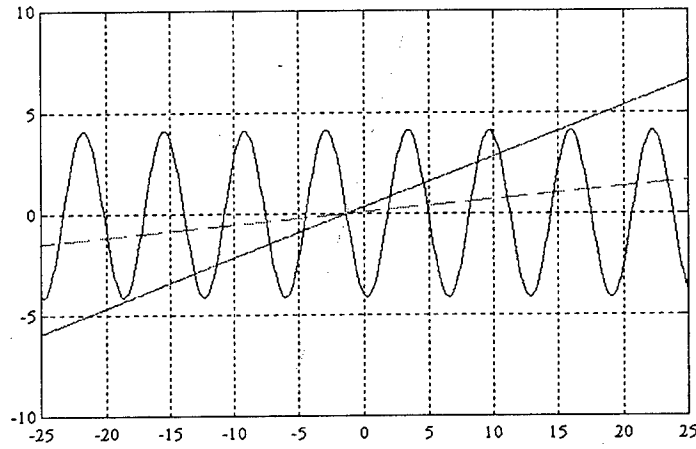


Fig. 3 The graphical representation of equation (11) for  $\alpha=4$ . dashdot line for  $\kappa\tau=0.5$ , solid line for  $\kappa\tau=4$  and dash line for  $\kappa\tau=16$ . intersection between the three lines and sinusoidal function is the optical frequency of the LD without EC.

$$\frac{\Omega_0 - \Omega_s}{\kappa} = -\sqrt{1 + \alpha^2} \sin(\Omega_0 \tau + \arctan \alpha) \quad (11)$$

$$\frac{\Delta g_{loss}}{2\kappa} = -\cos \Omega_0 \tau. \quad (12)$$

The graphical representation of equation (11) is shown in Fig. 3. The solutions to equation (11) are the intersections between the line and the sinusoidal function [7]. Also when  $\kappa\tau < 1$  only one solution exists (the intersection between the dashdot line and the solution of the LHS of equation (11)), increasing  $\kappa\tau$  becomes more solutions (shown by the intersections between the other lines and the sinusoidal function).

### 2.3 Compound-Cavity modes

Each lasing frequency  $\Omega_0$  has its own system of compound-cavity modes  $\Omega_n$ . The lasing frequency  $\Omega_0$  and the compound cavity modes  $\Omega_n$  should have the same

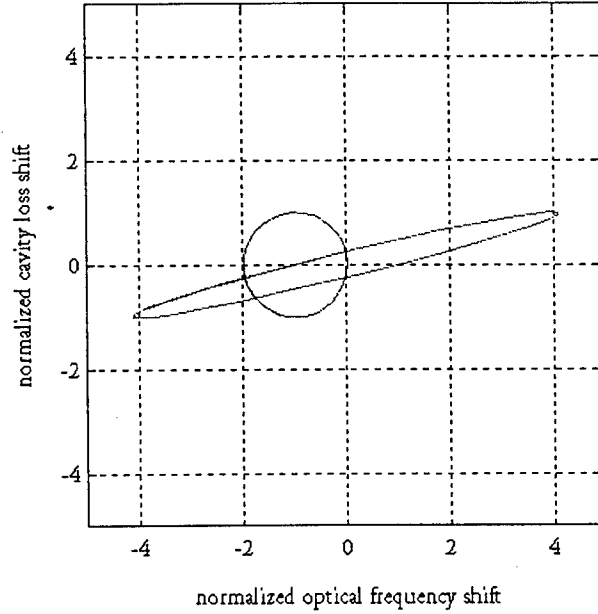


Fig.4 normalized cavity loss shift versus normalized optical frequency shift. the ellipse correspond to possible lasing frequency. The circle shows CC modes when the lasing frequency is equal to the optical frequency of the LD without EC.

$\Delta g_{th}$  (threshold gain shift due to feedback). That gives

$$\Delta g_{th}(\Omega_n) = \Delta g_{th}(\Omega_0) = -2\kappa \cos \Omega_0 \tau. \quad (13)$$

By inserting (13) and  $\Omega_n$  into (7), we obtain

$$\Omega_s - \Omega_n = \kappa \sin \Omega_n \tau - \frac{\alpha}{2} \Delta g(\Omega_0) . \quad (14)$$

These compound-cavity modes  $\Omega_n$  can be found by (14) times  $\tau$  and subtracting the result from (11) times  $\kappa\tau$ , which yields

$$\frac{(\Omega_0 - \Omega_n)}{\kappa} = \sin \Omega_n \tau - \sin \phi_0 . \quad (15)$$

The graphical representation of (15) is shown in Fig. 5. The solutions to (15) are the intersections between the line and the sinusoidal function. As we can see in Fig. 5, increasing  $\kappa\tau$  cause more and more solutions between the LHS and RHS of equation (15).

Let us consider the evolution of the CC modes with increasing  $\kappa\tau$  in the plane of parameters normalized optical frequency shift  $(\Omega_0 - \Omega_s)/\kappa$  -- normalized cavity loss shift  $\Delta g_{loss}/2\kappa = -\cos \Omega_0 \tau$ . In this plane, see Fig. 4, all solutions of (8) belong to an ellipse [8]. For  $\kappa\tau \gg 1$  only those solutions of (11) that lie on the lower branch of the ellipse are unstable corresponding to  $d\Omega_0/d\Omega_s < 0$  [2].

The solutions of (15) lie on a circle with radius 1 in the same coordinates as Fig. 4. Equation (8)  $\Delta\Omega\tau = \Omega\tau - \Omega_0\tau = -C \sin(\Omega\tau + \arctan \alpha)$  and a small-signal analysis yield the result for the linewidth of narrowing by external feedback [12]:

$$\Delta\nu = \Delta\nu_0 [1 + C \cos(\Omega\tau + \arctan \alpha)]^{-2} \quad (16)$$

where  $\Delta\nu_0$  denotes the linewidth of the solitary laser diode.

The lowest spectral linewidth is obtained for  $\phi_{ext} = \Omega\tau = -\arctan \alpha$ , yielding

$$\Delta\nu = \frac{\Delta\nu_0}{(1+C)^2} = \frac{\Delta\nu_0}{(1+\kappa\tau\sqrt{1+\alpha^2})^2} . \quad (17)$$

The mode with the lowest threshold gain to start lasing is  $\Delta g_{th} = -2\kappa \cos \Omega\tau = -2\kappa$  when  $\cos \Omega\tau = 1$  and thus

$$\Delta\nu = \frac{\Delta\nu_0}{(1+\kappa\tau)^2} \quad \text{for } \phi_{ext} = 2\pi m, \quad m = 0, 1, 2, \dots \quad (18)$$

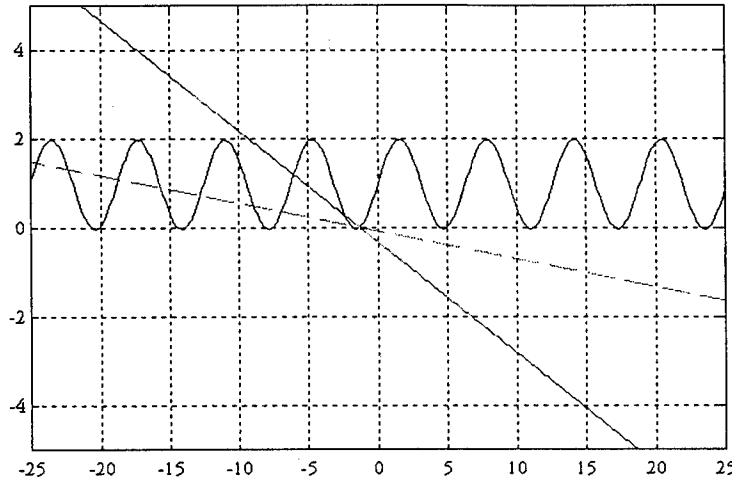


Fig.5 The graphical representation of equation (15). Dash-dotted line for  $\kappa\tau=0.5$ , solid line for  $\kappa\tau=4$  and dash line for  $\kappa\tau=16$ .

One would more expect that the mode with the lowest threshold gain would be the lasing one. Surprisingly, it turns out that the measured spectral linewidth for laser diode with optical feedback coefficients  $C \gg 1$  is closer to equation (16) than to (18), indicating that the external cavity mode with the narrowest linewidth is more stable than the external cavity mode with the lowest threshold gain.

From the measured conclusion, we assume  $\Omega_0 \tau = -\arctan \alpha$  corresponds to laser oscillation with minimal linewidth. In Fig. 4 the circle is shown for the case of  $\Omega_0 = \Omega_s$ . It means that the lasing frequency  $\Omega_0$  is equal to the resonance optical frequency  $\Omega_s$  of the LD without EC. The intersections between the ellipse and the circle are four points. One of the points marked A in Fig. 4 is when  $\Omega_0 = \Omega_s$  and its coordinates are  $[(\Omega_0 - \Omega_s)/\kappa, -\cos \phi_0]$ . Another point B has coordinates,  $[(\Omega_1 - \Omega_s)/\kappa, -\cos \phi_0]$  where

$$\Omega_1 = \Omega_0 + 2\kappa \sin \phi_0 \quad (19)$$

The points A and B have the same optical loss  $\Delta g_{loss} = -2\kappa \cos \Omega_0 \tau$  as the lasing mode  $\Omega_0$ , they can be oscillating modes at the same time.

For  $\kappa\tau < 1$  (weak feedback),  $\Omega_0 = \Omega_s$  is the only solution to equation (15). And it cannot be the lasing one because the optical loss is higher than the lasing one (point A). Increasing  $\kappa\tau$ , it leads to equalization of the cavity losses for the main mode (point A) and the sidemode when the last one reaches point B. Point B (the sidemode) has the same optical loss as point A (the main mode) and could be the lasing one too. However point B is lying on the upper unstable

branch of the ellipse, so it cannot be the lasing one for the solitary LD without EC. For the LD with EC, reaching point B by the CC sidemode can be considered as the transition from stable CW operation at frequency  $\Omega_0$  to instability. The critical value of  $\kappa\tau$  to reach point B can be found by the following steps. From the x-axis of Fig. 4 at point B,

$$\cos\Omega_1\tau = \cos\phi_0 \equiv \cos\Omega_0\tau \quad (20)$$

$\Omega_1$  also meets one of the solutions of equation (15). By inserting  $\Omega_1$  into  $\Omega_n$  of equation (15), we get

$$(\Omega_0 - \Omega_1)\tau = \kappa\tau(\sin\Omega_1\tau - \sin\phi_0) \quad (21)$$

Inserting equation (19)  $\Omega_1 = \Omega_0 + 2\kappa\sin\phi_0$  into  $\Omega_1$  on the LHS of equation (21) yield

$$\sin\Omega_1\tau = -\sin\phi_0 \quad (22)$$

From equations (21) and (22), we have

$$\Omega_1\tau = \Omega_0\tau - 2\pi - 2\phi_0 \quad (23)$$

After multiplying equation (18) by  $\tau$  and subtracting (22) into it, one obtains the “steady-state” condition of instability of the form

$$\kappa\tau = \frac{\pi + \phi_0}{-\sin\phi_0} \quad (24)$$

Equation (24) also satisfies equation (11).

Equation (24) defines the critical value of feedback under two conditions:  $\phi_s = -\arctan\alpha$  and  $\Omega_0 = \Omega_s$ . We could associate each state of lasing with its own number  $N$ . The point A, one of lasing state nearest  $\Omega_s$  is set to be  $N=0$ . We denote  $\Omega_0^N$ , the lasing frequency for the  $N$ th state, and  $\phi_0^N$ , the detuning parameter for the  $N$ th state. Then we can find the next relation for the phase shift

$$\Omega_0^N = \Omega_s\tau - 2\pi N - \phi_s + \phi_0^N \quad N = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \dots \quad (25)$$

$\phi$  is the detuning parameter between  $(-\pi, \pi)$ , and  $\Omega_i\tau = 2\pi n + \phi_i$ .

Combining (24) and (25) in (7), we obtain

$$\tan \phi_0^N = -\frac{\alpha(\pi + \phi_0^N)}{\pi(2N+1) + \phi_s} \quad (26)$$

This is the equation for the critical value of phase detuning .

To find the critical feedback coefficient value to reach the “steady-state” condition (24) of instability for each state of lasing, we combine

$$\kappa\tau = \frac{1-R}{\sqrt{R}} \cdot \frac{\tau}{\tau_0} \cdot \sqrt{f_{ext}}$$

for Fabry-Perot laser and (23). That gives

$$\kappa\tau = \frac{1-R}{\sqrt{R}} \cdot \frac{\tau}{\tau_0} \cdot \sqrt{f_{ext}^N} = \frac{\pi + \phi_0^N}{-\sin \phi_0^N}$$

then,

$$f_{ext}^N = \frac{R}{(1-R)^2} \cdot \frac{(\pi + \phi_0^N)^2}{\sin^2 \phi_0^N} \cdot \left(\frac{\tau_0}{\tau}\right)^2 \quad (27)$$

The relation between main mode and sidemode (CC mode) of the Nth lasing state can be found by using equation (23) ,

$$\Omega_1^N \tau = \Omega_0^N \tau - 2\pi - 2\phi_0^N ,$$

i.e.,

$$\Omega_1^N = \Omega_0^N - 2\pi\left(1 + \frac{\phi_0^N}{\pi}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{\tau} .$$

Then,

$$\Omega_1^N = \Omega_0^N - 2\pi\nu_N \quad (28)$$

where

$$\nu_N = \left(1 + \frac{\phi_0^N}{\pi}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{\tau} \quad (29)$$

can be interpreted as the beating frequency between two CC modes having equal optical loss.

In equation (24)  $\kappa\tau$  should be greater than zero, so  $\phi_0$  has values between  $(-\pi, 0)$ . That is, the detuning parameter is negative. This condition translates to

$$1 + \frac{\phi_0^N}{\pi} < 1$$

which gives

$$\nu_N < \frac{1}{\tau}, \quad (30)$$

from equation (29). So the mode beating frequency is always less than EC-mode spacing  $1/\tau$ .

The steady-state analysis of the short EC LD will help us to find the critical value of the feedback parameter leading to possible instabilities in laser operation. Now, we will prove the instability of laser operation by using the dynamic analysis including the linear stability analysis and computer simulation.

## 2.4 Linear Stability analysis

The static solution is called stable, if small perturbations from the static solution decay to zero as time goes toward infinity. Such a stable static solution can be observed experimentally. To check the stability of the static solution, we perform the linear stability analysis for a given static solution. Let  $\delta E$ ,  $\delta \phi$ , and  $\delta N$  denote the deviation from the stationary solution. The criterion for stable operation is that the determinant  $D(s)$  has no zeros in the right half of the S-plane [7], [9]. The determinant is obtained as

$$\begin{aligned} D(s) = & -s^3 + s^2 [\gamma + 2\kappa e(\tau) \cos \phi] \\ & -s [\omega_R^2 + \kappa^2 e^2(\tau) + 2\gamma_e \kappa e(\tau) \cos \phi] \\ & + \kappa [\omega_R^2 e(\tau) (\cos \phi - \alpha \sin \phi) + \gamma_e \kappa e^2(\tau) + \alpha \gamma_e \gamma_p e(\tau) \sin \phi] \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

with  $e(\tau) = 1 - e^{i\omega\tau}$  and  $\phi = \Omega\tau$ . Here  $\gamma_e = 1/\tau_s + g_N S$  is the carrier perturbation decay rate,  $\gamma = \gamma_e + \gamma_p$  is the decay rate of relaxation oscillations, with  $\gamma_p = g\kappa_p P$  being the contribution of the nonlinear gain. The angular frequency of relaxation oscillations  $\omega_R$  is given by  $\omega_R^2 = gg_N S + \gamma_e \gamma_p$ . Assuming that

$$\omega_R^2 \gg \gamma_e \gamma_p, \quad \omega_R^2 \gg \kappa \gamma_e$$

then  $D(s)$  can be approximated by

$$\begin{aligned} D(s) = & -s^3 + s^2 [\gamma + 2\kappa e(\tau) \cos \phi] \\ & -s [\omega_R^2 + \kappa^2 e^2(\tau)] \\ & + \kappa [\omega_R^2 e(\tau) (\cos \phi - \alpha \sin \phi)] \end{aligned} \quad (32)$$



For  $s = j\omega$ , we can separate the equation (32) into the real and imaginary parts. The real part of the equation is related to the damping constant of the semiconductor laser rate equations, and the imaginary part is related to the small signal resonance frequency.

The real and the imaginary parts give the following two conditions for having stable solutions located in the left half of the complex S plane (The detail is shown in Appendix B) :

$$(1 - 2 \frac{\omega^2}{\omega_R^2}) \cos \phi_0 - \alpha \sin \phi_0 < 2 \frac{\kappa \omega}{\omega_R^2} \sin \omega \tau + \frac{\omega^2}{\kappa \omega_d^2} \frac{1}{1 - \cos \omega \tau} \quad (33)$$

$$\omega^2 - \omega_R^2 = 4 \kappa^2 \sin^2(\frac{\omega \tau}{2}) + \omega \gamma \cot(\frac{\omega \tau}{2}) \quad (34)$$

where  $\omega_d = \omega_R^2 / \gamma$  is the damping frequency of the relaxation oscillations of LD without EC,  $\phi_0 = [\Omega_0 \tau] \bmod(2\pi)$  is the optical phase shift in EC, or detuning parameter.

If we neglect the first term on the right hand side (RHS) of the equations (33) and (34), the remaining terms  $1/\omega_d^2$  and  $\gamma$  describe the relaxation oscillation - induced instability which causes coherence collapse for long EC LD and very weak feedback. The first terms in the RHS of equation (33) and (34), which are proportional to  $\kappa^2$  and  $\kappa$ , respectively, are thus of important in the case of sufficiently high levels of feedback and reflect the influence of the above-described CC-mode competition on stability of the short EC LD.

In the case of sufficiently high levels of feedback, we neglect the second term on the RHS of both (33) and (34) and assume  $2\omega^2 / \omega_R^2 \gg 1, \alpha$ . We then obtain from (33) and (34) ,

$$\cos \phi_0 = -\frac{\kappa}{\omega} \sin \omega \tau \quad (35)$$

$$\omega = 2 \kappa \sin(\frac{\omega \tau}{2}) \quad (36)$$

When the frequency of self-oscillations  $\omega / 2\pi$  is equal to the CC-mode beat frequency from equation (19), we get

$$\frac{\omega}{2\pi} = \nu_n = (1 + \frac{\phi_0^N}{\pi}) \cdot \frac{1}{\tau} \quad (37)$$

which yields

$$\omega \tau = 2\pi + 2\phi_0^N \quad (38)$$

By inserting (38) into (35) or (36), we can get the same expressions as (14) :

$$\kappa\tau = \frac{\pi + \phi_0}{-\sin \phi_0}$$

Thus, the linear stability analysis of the short EC LD not only gives the critical value of  $\kappa$  but also predicts the dynamic instability of laser operation caused by the competition of the two CC modes which have equal optical losses.

Equations (31) and (32) give the boundary of this stability region. But they cannot give any information above the stability boundary. To get the information above the boundary of the stability region, we proceed to use computer simulations of the nonlinear system.

### 3.0 Numerical Simulation

The rate equations for the EC LD are given in equations (1) and (2). The absolute squared value of the electric field amplitude corresponds to the number of photons in the laser cavity. Equations (1) and (2) can be cast into rate equations for the photon number  $S$ , the phase  $\phi$ , and the carrier number  $N$ .

$$\frac{dS(t)}{dt} = \left(g - \frac{1}{\tau_p}\right)S(t) + 2\kappa\sqrt{S(t)}\sqrt{S(t-\tau)}\cos(\Omega_s\tau + \phi(t) - \phi(t-\tau)) \quad (39)$$

$$\frac{d\phi(t)}{dt} = \frac{\alpha}{2}g_N(N - N_s) - \kappa\frac{\sqrt{S(t-\tau)}}{\sqrt{S(t)}}\sin(\Omega_s\tau + \phi(t) - \phi(t-\tau)) \quad (40)$$

$$\frac{dN(t)}{dt} = J - \frac{N(t)}{\tau_{sp}} - gS(t) \quad (41)$$

In numerical simulations, the system of rate equations system (39)-(40) is solved by using a fifth-order Runge-Kutta method [10],[11]. The calculations used the laser parameters given in Table I. The computer program is written in C (shown in Appendix C). We specify the initial conditions  $S(0)=10$ ,  $\phi(0)=0$  and  $N(0)=0$ . In the time interval  $0 \leq t \leq \tau$ , the data of photon number  $S$  and phase  $\phi$  are stored in memory and they are reused after the round-trip time  $\tau$  of the EC in order to account for the optical feedback.

Next, we will show results for the two different kinds of SEC LD: A) Fabry-Perot laser with an external cavity; B) VCSEL with an external cavity

#### 3.1 Fabry-Perot Laser with an external cavity

The first example is a Fabry-Perot laser with an external cavity as shown in Fig.2, with cavity length  $L=200\mu\text{m}$ , facet reflectivity  $R=0.32$  ( corresponding to  $KL=2.3$  for an AR-coated

DFB laser with a  $\pi/2$  phase shift.), output power  $P=5\text{mW}/\text{per facet}$ . Other parameters are given in Table I [12]. We choose EC cavity length such that round-trip time  $\tau$  varies between 25 and 40 ps (the external cavity between 3.75 and 6 mm). Within this range,  $\tau$  is less than the critical value for coherence-collapse regime (chaotic self-modulation of laser light with dramatic broadening of laser spectrum).

**TABLE I**  
**List of Parameters for Fabry-Perot laser**

Parameter	Symbol	Value	Units
scattering loss in the active region	$\alpha_s$	$3.6 \times 10^3$	$m^{-1}$
carrier number at transparency	$N_s$	$2.0 \times 10^8$	
output power	P	$2.906 \times 10^{-8} \times S$	$mW / \text{facet}$
index of active region	$n_g$	4.5	
differential gain	$g_N$	$2.2 \times 10^3$	$s^{-1}$
linewidth enhancement factor	$\alpha$	4	
laser wavelength	$\lambda$	1.3	$\mu m$
spontaneous emission lifetime	$\tau_s$	$2.0 \times 10^{-9}$	$s$
photon lifetime	$\tau_p$	$1.29072 \times 10^{-12}$	$s$
gain saturation coefficient	$k_p$	4.8	$W^{-1}$

Figs. 6 and 7 illustrate two characteristics of SEC LD instability. In Fig. 6 we report the simulated and analytical dependence of the oscillation according to the feedback parameter ( $f_{ext}$ ) on the length of external cavity (Lext). The dependence of the frequency of these oscillations on the length of external cavity (Lext) is shown in Fig. 7. The two dash lines in Fig. 6 and Fig. 7 represent two groups of strongest high-frequency oscillations (the modulation depth reaches unity) according to numerical simulation. Data marked with asterisks are the simulation data of high frequency oscillations. The lower dash line belongs to the first group of high frequency oscillation according to  $f_{ext}^0$ . The second dash line belongs to the second group of high frequency oscillation according to  $f_{ext}^1$ .

As discussed the results in Fig. 6 and Fig. 7 are obtained under two assumptions. First,  $\phi_{ext} = -\arctan \alpha$ , the lowest spectral linewidth, is more stable than the lowest threshold gain as mentioned before. Second,  $\Omega_0 = \Omega_s$  means the lasing frequency  $\Omega_0$  is equal to  $\Omega_s$ , the resonance optical frequency of the LD without EC. We can see from the high feedback parameter ( $f_{ext}$ ) that the laser operation will lose stability and lead to high frequency oscillation.

This type of instability is the result of the beat frequency between two CC modes having equal optical loss. As mentioned in the previous section, by increasing  $f_{ext}$  it leads to equalization of the cavity losses for the main mode and the first left sidemode and those two

modes produces a self twin-mode locking generating high frequency oscillations. In Fig. 6 the two solid lines present the critical feedback parameters from equation (27) (the lower solid line shows  $N=0$  for  $f_{ext}^N$  and the other shows  $N=1$ ), corresponding to the main mode and the sidemode having equal optical loss. The two solid lines as shown in Fig. 7 illustrate the results from equation (29) (the lower solid line shows  $N=0$  for  $\nu_N$  and the other shows  $N=1$ ). These results denote the beat frequencies between two CC modes having equal optical loss. From Fig. 6 and Fig. 7 linear stability analysis and computer simulated agree very well.

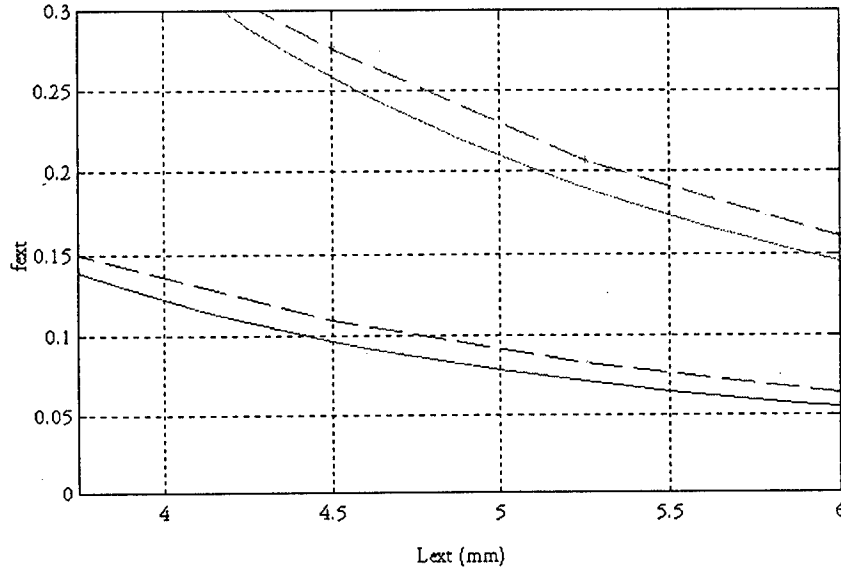


Fig. 6 A SEC LD operation ( $L_{ext}, f_{ext}$ ). The lower and upper solid lines present theoretical critical value at  $f_{ext}^0$  and  $f_{ext}^1$  group. The lower and upper dash lines show the strongest oscillation at  $f_{ext}^0$  and  $f_{ext}^1$  group. Curved marked with '\*' represent the simulation data..

In what follows, we explain the data within the onset and offset of high frequency oscillations of the group  $f_{ext}^1$  for an air-equivalent EC length  $L_{ext}=5.25\text{mm}$  ( $\tau=35\text{ ps}$ ). For  $f_{ext}=0.204$  the high frequency oscillation occurs at a frequency around 20.9 GHz. But the oscillation is not strong, the amplitude of the oscillation will become weaker and it will disappear after  $t>52\text{ns}$ . Increasing  $f_{ext}$  to 0.205 the stable oscillation occurs. But the amplitude of the oscillation is small. That means the intensity of the sidemode is much less than the main mode. Further increase in  $f_{ext}$  leads larger oscillation amplitude (the stronger intensity of the sidemode) and the bigger oscillation frequency. When  $f_{ext}$  reaches 0.206 the strongest intensity shows up as shown in Fig. 8 with the frequency  $f=21.3\text{ GHz}$ . Further increase in  $f_{ext}$  ( $>0.206$ ) destroys the twin-mode locking. It leads the high frequency oscillation to a new single-mode state with higher output power (6.56 mW). The new optical frequency does not the same with any of the "old" CC

modes in Fig. 8 . The new one is one of the stable solutions (which lie on the lower branch of Fig. 4) of equation (8).

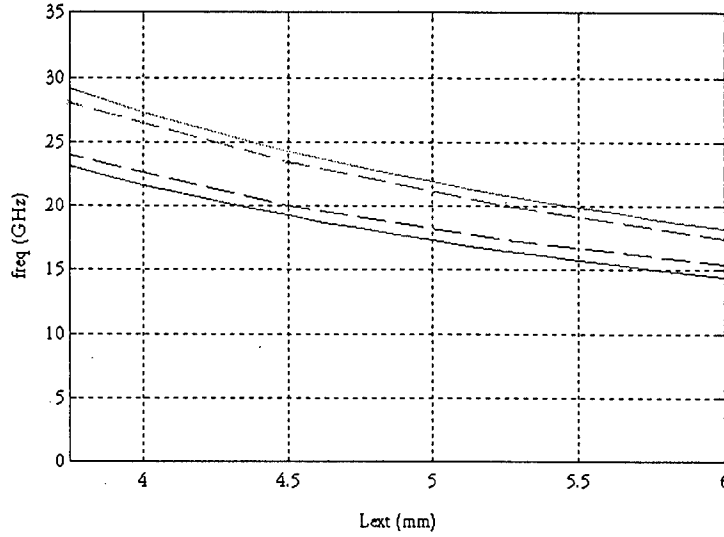


Fig. 7 A SEC LD operation ( $L_{ext}, f$ ). The lower and upper solid lines present the theoretical critical value at  $f_{ext}^0$  and  $f_{ext}^1$  group . The lower and upper dash lines show the beat frequencies of the  $f_{ext}^0$  and  $f_{ext}^1$  according to the strongest oscillation in Fig. 11. Curved marked with '\*' represent the simulation data.

From the theoretical and simulated results, we conclude that: for the high feedback parameter  $f_{ext}$ , increasing  $f_{ext}$  causes the single-mode optical frequency to become unstable above a critical  $f_{ext}$ . It leads to high-frequency oscillation corresponding to self twin-mode locking. Increasing  $f_{ext}$  destroys mode locking. If feedback  $f_{ext}$  is further increased, above process will repeat.

Thus, we can see that a SEC LD exhibits several regimes of self twin-mode locking high frequency oscillations in some ranges of feedback parameters.

The simulation we have done corresponds to an output power  $P=5\text{mw}$ /per facet. It agree with the results in [4]. The critical feedback parameters required for high frequency oscillation also change with the change of the injection number according to the simulated results.

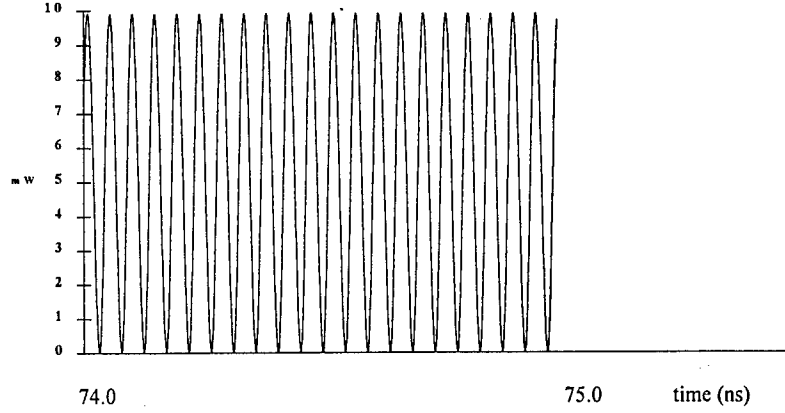


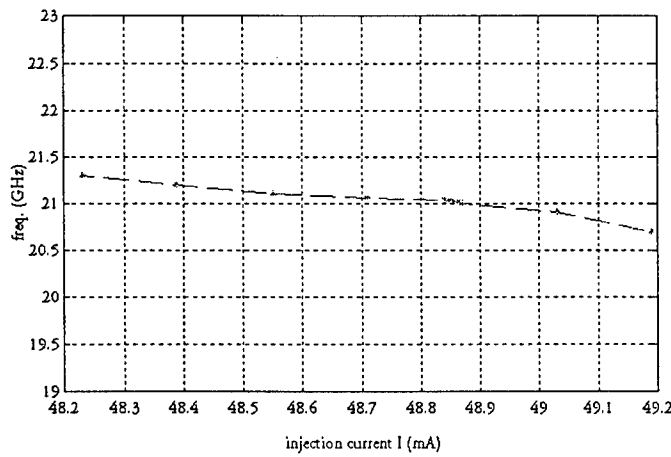
Fig. 8 The strongest oscillation for the  $L_{ext}=5.25\text{mm}$  and the  $f_{ext}^1$  group. The feedback parameter is 0.206. The oscillation frequency is equal to 21.3 GHz.

In what follows, we set the output power  $P=2$  mW/per facet. Other parameters are the same as the previous example as shown in Table I. Here, we also choose the EC length  $L_{ext}=5.25$  mm. We found that the feedback parameters for the strongest modulation index occurs when  $f_{ext}=0.188$  compared to 0.206 for  $P=5$  mW/per facet. Further increasing  $f_{ext}$  destroys the twin mode locking. It leads the laser operation on a new single-mode state with higher output power (3.06 mW). The strongest oscillation frequency we get in the group  $f_{ext}^1$  is 20.7 GHz. This frequency is not the same with the frequency 21.3 GHz in the previous example of  $P=5$  mW/per facet.

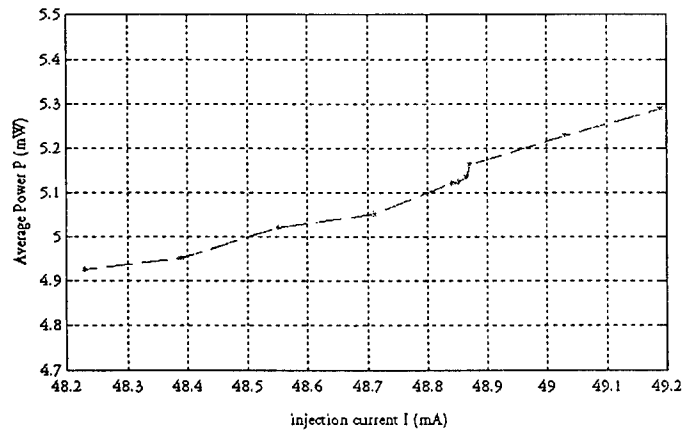
**Table II**  
**List of frequency, average power and oscillation amplitude**  
**on the change of the injection current**

Injection current (mA)	frequency (GHz)	Average Power (mW)	Osc. Amp. (mW)
47.87	0	6.279	0
48.23	21.3	4.925	4.775
48.39	21.2	4.95	4.95
48.55	21.1	5.06	4.89
48.71	21.05	5.05	4.55
48.84	21.03	5.12	4.0
48.85	21.02	5.123	3.925
48.865	21.01	5.125	3.825
48.87	21	5.163	0.123
49.03	20.9	5.228	0.007
49.19	20.7	5.2875	0.0005

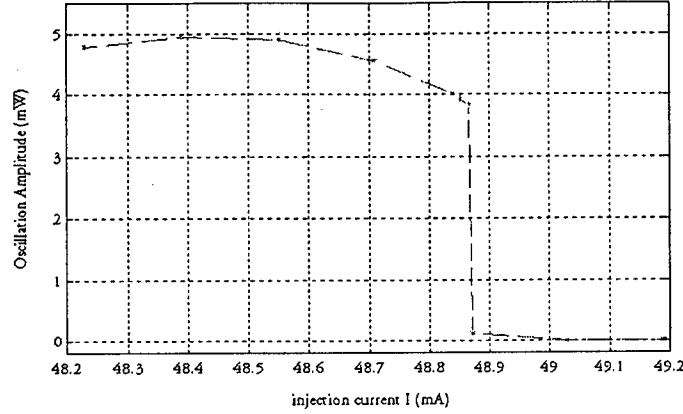
Next, we will show the dependence of the oscillation frequency ( $f$ ), average power ( $P$ ) and oscillation amplitude on the injection current ( $I=J/e$ ). The external cavity length is fixed at  $L_{ext}=5.25$  mm and the feedback parameter is fixed at  $f_{ext}=0.206$ . The other parameters are shown in Table I. In Table II and Fig. 9 (a),(b),(c) , we can see the lead to higher oscillation frequency variations of these quantities for injection current values between 48.2 mA and 49.2 mA. The laser operation of  $f_{ext}=0.206$  and injection current  $I=47.87$  mA destroys the twin-mode locking and leads to a new single-mode state with higher output power 6.279 mW. For  $I>48.23$ mA the high frequency oscillation occurs. The strongest oscillation shows up when  $I=48.39$  mA at a frequency 21.2 GHz . Further increasing injection current  $I$  leads the weaker oscillation. When  $I>49.19$ mA, the stable oscillation disappears. Thus, the injection current are functions of the oscillation frequency, the oscillation amplitude and the average output power



(a)



(b)



(c)

Fig. 9 The parameters of the laser operation depend on the injection current (I) at an external cavity length  $L_{ext}=5.25$  mm and the feedback parameter  $f_{ext}=0.206$ . Data asterisks are the simulation data. (a) Oscillation frequency versus the injection current (I). (b) Average output power versus the injection current (I). (c) Oscillation Amplitude versus the injection current (I).

According to the simulated results, the SEC LD operation do exist some instability regimes. The feedback parameters of the onset and offset of the instability depends on the output power. The oscillation frequencies also depends on the output power. But the theoretical critical feedback value in equation (27) cannot show any information about the relation between  $f_{ext}$  and Power. The theoretial frequency value in equation (28) also cannot give any information about the relation between frequency and Power. Those should be investigated in more detail.

An interesting question is: what is the highest oscillation frequency? By inserting  $\kappa = C_l / \tau_0$  into equation (24) and equation (24)  $\pi + \phi_0 = -k\tau \sin \phi_0$  into equation (29), we get

$$\nu = [-\sin \phi_0] \frac{C_l}{\pi} \cdot \frac{1}{\tau_0} \quad (42)$$

where

$$C_l = (1 - R_2) \cdot \sqrt{\frac{R_3}{R_2}} = (1 - R_2) \cdot \sqrt{\frac{f_{ext}}{R_2}}$$

is a coupling strength coefficient between the EC and the LD. From equation (42), we can see that higher  $f_{ext}$  and shorter LD (means shorter  $\tau_0$ ) lead to higher oscillation frequency.

To obtain the highest oscillation frequency, we also need to set  $-\sin \phi_0 = 1$  in equation (42). Then we get

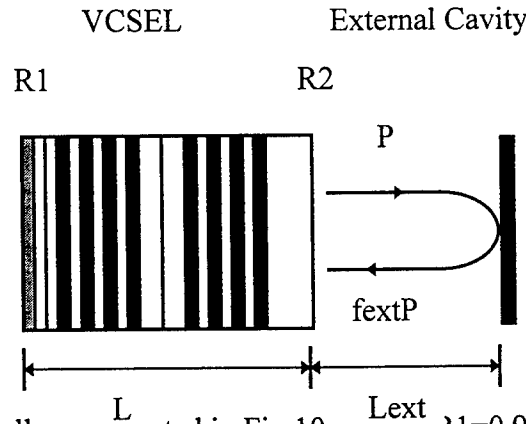


$$\nu_{\max} = \frac{1}{\pi\tau_0},$$

assuming  $\eta=1$ . Thus, the highest frequency is equal to the mode spacing,  $\nu = 1/\tau_0 = c/2Ln_g$ , for the LD without the EC.

Whether this high frequency limit can really be achieved and where the stability of the high frequency regimes really are still need to be investigated in more detail.

### 3.2 VCSEL with an External Cavity



The system is schematically represented in Fig.10, where  $R1=0.999$  (for the top mirror),  $R2=0.995$  (for the bottom mirror). The other parameters used in the following simulation are shown in Table III.

According to our simulation, the result of simulation agrees with analysis only when the average output power of VCSEL is around 15.7 mW \*. This power is too high for the VCSEL operation. Hence we will show the simulated results corresponding to the output power  $P=2\text{mW}$ /the bottom facet. In Fig.11, we show the locations of strongest high frequency oscillations in the parameter space consisting of the feedback parameter ( $f_{ext}$ ) and the length of external cavity ( $L_{ext}$ ). The graphical representation of the high frequency oscillations ( $f$ ) as a function of the length of the external cavity ( $L_{ext}$ ) is shown in Fig.12. As before, the dash lines are fits to simulated results marked with asterisks.

**TABLE III**  
**List of Parameters for VCSEL**

Parameter	Symbol	Value	Units
scattering loss in the active region	$\alpha_s$	$3.6 \times 10^3$	$m^{-1}$
carrier number at transparency	$N_s$	$1.41372 \times 10^9$	

output power	P	$2.653 \times 10^{-8} \times S$	mW / the bottom facet
index of active region	$n_g$	3.5	
diameter of VCSEL's	r	15	um
differential gain	$g_N$	$2.2 \times 10^3$	$s^{-1}$
linewidth enhancement factor	$\alpha$	4	
laser wavelength	$\lambda$	966	nm
spontaneous emission lifetime	$\tau_s$	$2.0 \times 10^{-9}$	s
photon lifetime	$\tau_p$	$1.766 \times 10^{-12}$	s
gain saturation coefficient	$k_p$	4.8	$W^{-1}$

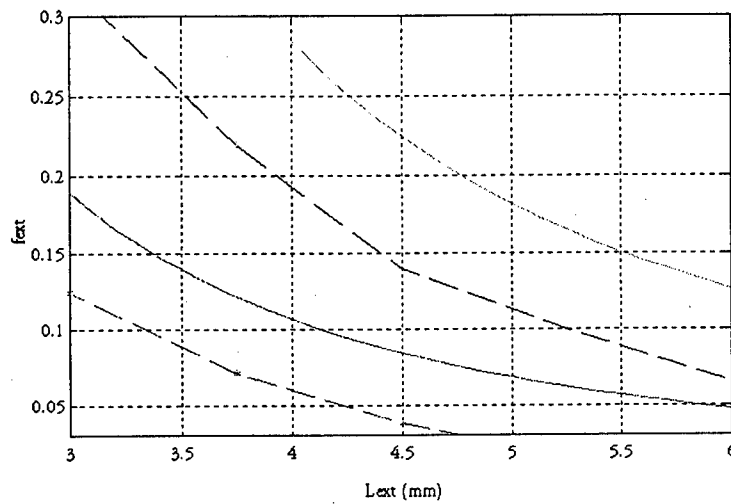


Fig. 11 A VCSEL with a SEC operation ( $L_{ext}$ ,  $f_{ext}$ ). The lower and upper solid lines show the critical value at  $f_{ext}^0$  and  $f_{ext}^1$  group. The lower and upper dash lines show the strongest oscillation at and  $f_{ext}^1$  group. Curved marked with '\*' represents the simulated data. The parameters for the strongest oscillation at an average output power around 15.7mW, coincide with the critical parameters for the onset of oscillation according to analysis. The range of parameters for oscillations is relatively small.

As we can see, shorter laser cavity length as for the case of a VCSEL also lead to twin-mode locking and high frequency oscillations. The lower dash line in Fig.11 and Fig.12 show the strongest oscillation just before switching to a new single-mode state for  $f_{ext}^0$  and the upper ones for  $f_{ext}^1$ . Increasing  $f_{ext}$  causes the instability to switch to a new single-mode state. This process repeats if  $f_{ext}$  continues to increase (for  $f_{ext}^N$ ,  $N=0,1,2,3, \dots$ ).

Next, we will explain the instability regime of VCSEL operation for an external cavity length  $L_{ext} = 3.75$  mm (the instability group for  $f_{ext}^0$  only). The onset of instability is  $f_{ext} = 0.07$  with the weak intensity of sidemode. Increasing  $f_{ext}$  results in stronger intensity of sidemode thus stronger oscillation. When  $f_{ext}$  reaches 0.071 as show in Fig.13 the modulation depth reaches unity (the strongest oscillation) with a frequency of 18ghz. Increasing  $f_{ext}$  further destroys the twin-mode locking instability and lead to a higher power ( $\sim 4.496$ mW) in a single-mode state. These changing in the strength of the oscillation repeat for  $f_{ext}^N$ ,  $N=0,1,2,3 \dots$ .

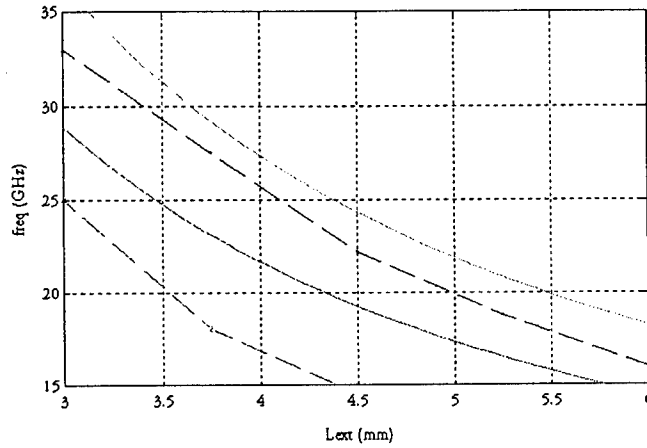


Fig. 12 A VCSEL with a SEC operation ( $L_{ext}$ ,  $f$ ). The lower and upper solid lines show the critical beat frequencies of the  $f_{ext}^0$  and  $f_{ext}^1$  group. The lower and upper dash lines show the beat frequencies of the and  $f_{ext}^1$  group according to the strongest oscillation in Fig.11. Curved marked with '\*' represent the simulated data.

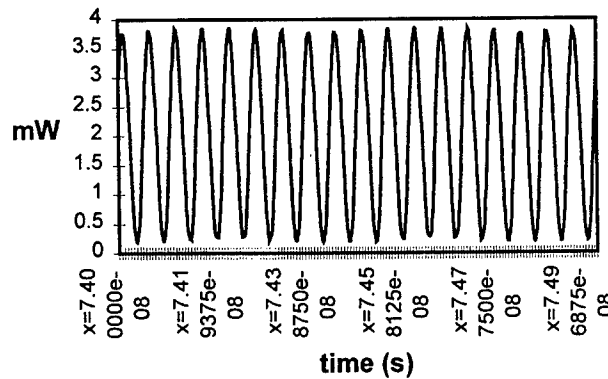


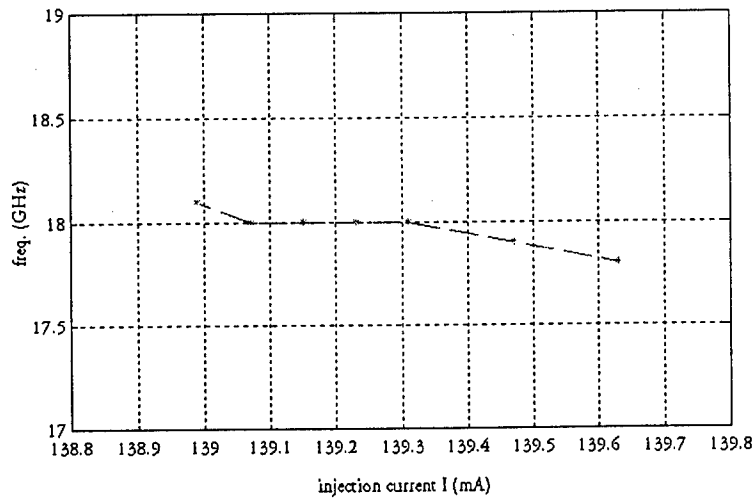
Fig. 13 The strongest oscillation in  $L_{ext}=3.75$ mm and the  $f_{ext}^0$  group. The feedback parameter is 0.071. The oscillation frequency is 18 GHz.

Next, we will show the dependences of the oscillation frequency ( $f$ ), average power ( $P$ ) and oscillation amplitude on the injection current ( $I=J/e$ ). The external cavity length is fixed at  $L_{ext}=3.75\text{mm}$  and the feedback parameter is fixed at  $f_{ext}=0.071$ . The other parameters are shown in Table III. In Table IV and Fig.14 (a),(b),(c) , we can see the variations of these quantities for injection current values between 138.8mA and 193.8mA. The laser operation for  $f_{ext}=0.071$  and injection current  $I=138.83\text{mA}$  detroys the twin-mode locking and leads to a new single-mode state with higher output power 4.329mW. For  $I>138.99\text{mA}$  the high frequency oscillation occurs. The strongest oscillation shows up when  $I=139.07\text{mA}$  at a frequency 18 GHz. Further increasing

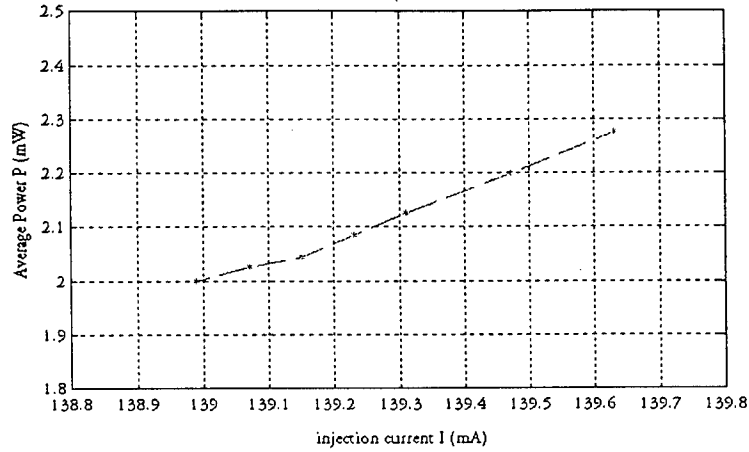
**Table IV**

List of frequency, average power and oscillation amplitude on the change of the injection current.

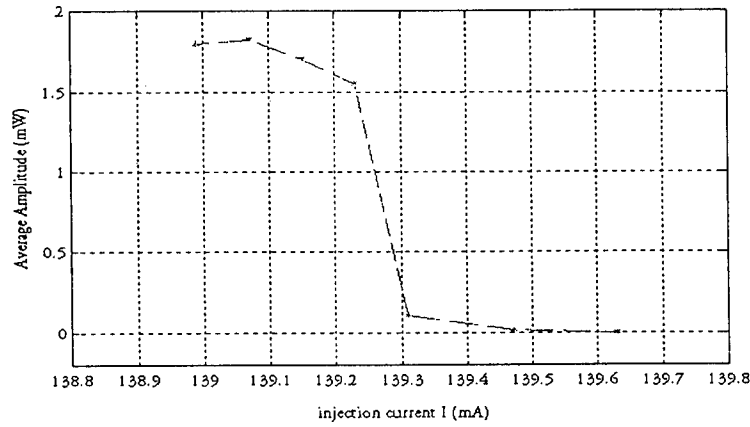
Injection current (mA)	frequency (GHz)	Average Power (mW)	Oscillation Amplitude (mW)
138.83	0	4.329	0
138.99	18.1	2.0	1.80
139.07	18.0	2.025	1.825
139.15	18.0	2.045	1.7
139.23	18.0	2.085	1.55
139.31	18.0	2.125	0.105
139.47	17.9	2.199	0.016
139.63	17.8	2.276	0.001



(a)



(b)



(c)

Fig.14 The parameters of the laser operation depend on the injection current ( $I$ ) at an external cavity length  $L_{ext}=3.75\text{mm}$  and the feedback parameter  $f_{ext}=0.071$ . Data marked asterisks are the simulation data. (a) Oscillation frequency versus the injection current ( $I$ ). (b) Average output power versus the injection current ( $I$ ). (c) Oscillation Amplitude the injection current.

injection current  $I$  leads the weaker oscillation. When  $I > 139.63\text{mA}$ , the stable oscillation disappears.

Due to the simulated results in Fabry-Perot lasers and VCSEL, we can conclude that: the SEC LD exhibits some regimes of high-frequency self-oscillations in some range of feedback parameters. For fixed  $L_{ext}$  and  $f_{ext}$ , the change of the injection current will cause the change of the oscillation frequency, the oscillation amplitude and the average output power.

## 4.0 Conclusion

We have presented analytical and numerical investigation of the instability regimes of a SEC LD . The instability is caused by self twin-mode locking of a short external cavity (a few millimeters) laser diode. As we have proved theoretically, these high-frequency oscillations correspond to an equalization of the cavity loss for the main mode (the lasing frequency) and the sidemode. The phenomena of high-frequency oscillation is caused by a high level of coupling between the laser diode and the external cavity and thus are compound-laser-cavity effects.

The key results are as follows: First, a laser diode operation with a short external cavity (a few millimeters) in some ranges of feedback parameters exist some regimes of high-frequency self twin-mode oscillations. Second, in high frequency oscillation of every  $f_{ext}^N$  ( $N=0,1,2,\dots$ ) regime, increasing  $f_{ext}$  leads to higher modulation index and higher oscillation frequency. For certain  $f_{ext}$  the strongest oscillation amplitude shows up (the modulation depth reaches unity). Increasing  $f_{ext}$  destroys the twin-mode locking instability and lead to a higher power single-mode state. These instability repeat for every  $f_{ext}^N$  regime.

In the simulation results, changing injection number (J) (or injection current (I)) will change the average output power. In addition to changing the output power, it also changes the critical feedback parameter  $f_{ext}$  which required for high-frequency oscillations and the oscillation frequency. But in equations (26) and (29), the critical feedback parameters and the beat frequencies do not depend on either the injection number or the output power. The validity of these questions should be investigated further.

In numerical simulation, we used two kinds of laser cavities, Fabry-Perot laser and VCSEL. The numerical and analytical results demonstrate that a SEC LD operation do exhibit high-frequency self twin-mode locking oscillations in some ranges of feedback parameters. These should be proved by experiments.

This laser operation of a SEC LD can be used as tunable microwave oscillators with frequency modulation capacities. These device can be very useful for all-optical high-speed microwave fiber-optic transmitters.

## Appendix A

To find the relation between output power (P) and photon numbers (S), we should discuss the two main sources of loss in optical resonators first. The two most common loss mechanisms in an optical resonator are as follows:

1. Losses resulting from absorption and scattering in the laser medium between the mirrors.  $\alpha_s$  is the absorption coefficient of the medium corresponds to photons which are lost within the laser cavity.
2. Losses arising from nonperfect reflections at the mirrors. Reflection loss is unavoidable, since without some transmission no power output is possible. Even we design the mirrors with the highest possible reflectivities, some residual absorption and scattering reduce the reflectivity to somewhat less than 100 percent.
- 3.

The threshold gain denoted  $g = g_{th}$ , equals to an effective overall distributed-loss coefficient,

$$g_{th} = \alpha_s + \alpha_m, \quad (A-1)$$

where the quantity

$$\alpha_m = \frac{1}{2L} \cdot \ln\left(\frac{1}{R_1 R_2}\right) \quad (A-2)$$

represents a fictitious equivalent loss per unit length due to useful escape of light through one of the two cavity mirrors. The reflectances of the two mirrors are  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ .

The external quantum efficiency of the LD,  $\eta_{ext}$ , is the fraction of injected electrons that get converted to useful output photons. The quantity  $\eta_i$  is the internal quantum efficiency, the fraction of injected electrons that produce stimulated photons, not all of which will reach the output of the LD. The ratio between the external and the internal quantum efficiency is given as

$$\frac{\eta_{ext}}{\eta_i} = \frac{\alpha_m}{g_{th}} = \frac{\left(\frac{1}{2L}\right) \cdot \ln\left(\frac{1}{R_1 R_2}\right)}{g_{th}} = \frac{\alpha_m}{\alpha_s + \alpha_m} \quad (A-3)$$

Therefore, total emitted power  $P_{tot}$  due to stimulated emission is

$$P_{tot} = (h\nu) \cdot \frac{\eta_{ext}}{\eta_i} \cdot (\# \text{ of photons due to stimulated emission per unit time}) \quad (A-4)$$

that is,

$$P_{tot} = (h\nu) \cdot \frac{\eta_{ext}}{\eta_i} \cdot (R_{st} \cdot S) \quad (A-5)$$

$$= (h\nu) \cdot \frac{\eta_{ext}}{\eta_i} \cdot \frac{1}{\tau_{ph}} \cdot S \quad (A-6)$$

where  $R_{st} \cdot S$  is the photons generated per unit time by stimulated emission and

$$R_{st} \approx \frac{1}{\tau_{ph}} \quad (A-7)$$

is above the threshold. The photon's lifetime,  $\tau_{ph}$ , is defined as

$$\frac{1}{\tau_{ph}} = \left(\frac{c}{n_g}\right) \cdot (\alpha_s + \alpha_m) \quad (A-8)$$

where  $n_g$  is the effective group refractive index and  $h\nu$  is the energy of each photon.

From equations (A-3) and (A-8), the total emitted power will be

$$P_{tot} = (h\nu) \cdot \frac{\alpha_m}{\alpha_s + \alpha_m} \cdot \left[ \left(\frac{c}{n_g}\right) \cdot (\alpha_s + \alpha_m) \right] \cdot S \quad (A-9)$$

Then,

$$P_{tot} = (h\nu) \cdot \alpha_m \cdot \frac{c}{n_g} \cdot S \quad (A-10)$$

With the expression for  $\alpha_m$  given by equation (A-2), one finally gets

$$P_{tot} = (h\nu) \cdot \frac{c}{n_g} \cdot \frac{1}{2L} \cdot \ln\left(\frac{1}{R_1 R_2}\right) \cdot S \quad (A-11)$$

where  $P_{tot}$  is the total power emitted from both facets (or both mirrors). Equation (A-11) is the relation between power (P) and photon numbers (S).

For a symmetric laser diode, a total output power  $P_{tot}$  is equal to twice of the output power per facet ( $P / \text{per facet} = 1/2 P_{tot}$ ).



## Appendix B

Small signal analysis of the EC LD far above threshold can be performed by linearizing (1) and (2) with respect to small derivations around the stationary solutions and neglecting the noise terms. By inserting  $S = j\omega$  into equation (32), we get

$$\begin{aligned} D(\omega) = & i\omega^3 - \omega^2 [\gamma + 2\kappa(1 - e^{i\omega\tau}) \cos \phi] \\ & - i\omega [\omega_R^2 + \kappa^2(1 - e^{i\omega\tau})^2] \\ & + \kappa [\omega_R^2(1 - e^{i\omega\tau})(\cos \phi - \alpha \sin \phi)] \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B-1})$$

with  $e(\tau) = 1 - e^{i\omega\tau}$ ,  $\phi = \Omega\tau$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} D(\omega) = & i\omega^3 - \omega^2 [\gamma + 2\kappa(1 - \cos \omega\tau + i \sin \omega\tau) \cos \phi] \\ & - i\omega [\omega_R^2 + \kappa^2(1 - 2(\cos \omega\tau + i \sin \omega\tau) + \cos 2\omega\tau + i \sin 2\omega\tau)] \\ & + \kappa [\omega_R^2(1 - \cos \omega\tau - i \sin \omega\tau)(\cos \phi - \alpha \sin \phi)] \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B-2})$$

For having a zero of  $D(\omega)$  on the imaginary axis (the boundary of the stability), we set the real part and imaginary part of  $D(\omega)$  equal to zero ( $\text{Re}[D(\omega)] = 0$  and  $\text{Im}[D(\omega)] = 0$ ). The real part of  $D(\omega)$  gives

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Re}[D(\omega)] = & -\omega^2 [\gamma + 2\kappa(1 - \cos \omega\tau) \cos \phi] - i\omega [\kappa^2(-2i \sin \omega\tau + i \sin 2\omega\tau)] \\ & + \kappa\omega_R^2(1 - \cos \omega\tau)(\cos \phi - \alpha \sin \phi) \\ = & -\omega^2 [\gamma + 2\kappa(1 - \cos \omega\tau) \cos \phi] - \omega [\kappa^2(-2 \sin \omega\tau + 2 \sin \omega\tau \cdot \cos \omega\tau)] \\ & + \kappa\omega_R^2(1 - \cos \omega\tau)(\cos \phi - \alpha \sin \phi) \\ = & -\omega^2 \gamma - 2\omega^2 \kappa(1 - \cos \omega\tau) \cos \phi + \omega\kappa^2(-2 \sin \omega\tau + 2 \sin \omega\tau \cdot \cos \omega\tau) \\ & + \kappa\omega_R^2(1 - \cos \omega\tau)(\cos \phi - \alpha \sin \phi) \end{aligned}$$

For  $\text{Re}[D(\omega)] = 0$ , we get

$$0 = -\omega^2 \gamma - 2\omega^2 \kappa(1 - \cos \omega\tau) \cos \phi + \omega\kappa^2(-2 \sin \omega\tau + 2 \sin \omega\tau \cdot \cos \omega\tau) + \kappa\omega_R^2(1 - \cos \omega\tau)(\cos \phi - \alpha \sin \phi) \quad (\text{B-3})$$

Dividing equation (B-3) by  $(\kappa\omega_R^2)$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} 0 = & -\frac{\omega^2}{\kappa(\frac{\omega_R^2}{\gamma})} - 2 \cdot \frac{\omega^2}{\omega_R^2} \cdot \kappa(1 - \cos \omega\tau) \cos \phi - 2 \cdot \frac{\omega\kappa}{\omega_R^2} \cdot \sin \omega\tau \\ & + (\cos \phi - \alpha \sin \phi)(1 - \cos \omega\tau) \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B-4})$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned}
& (1 - 2 \cdot \frac{\omega^2}{\omega_R^2})(1 - \cos \omega\tau) \cos \phi - \alpha \sin \phi (1 - \cos \omega\tau) \\
& = 2 \cdot \frac{\omega\kappa}{\omega_R^2} \cdot \sin \omega\tau \cdot (1 - \cos \omega\tau) + \frac{\omega^2}{\kappa\omega_d}
\end{aligned} \tag{B-5}$$

Dividing equation (B-5) by  $(1 - \cos \omega\tau)$  gives

$$(1 - 2 \cdot \frac{\omega^2}{\omega_R^2}) \cos \phi - \alpha \sin \phi = 2 \cdot \frac{\omega\kappa}{\omega_R^2} \cdot \sin \omega\tau + \frac{\omega^2}{\kappa\omega_d} \cdot \frac{1}{1 - \cos \omega\tau} . \tag{B-6}$$

This is the boundary condition from the real part of  $D(\omega)$ .

The imaginary part of  $D(\omega)$  gives ,

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Im}[D(\omega)] = & i\omega^3 - \omega^2 [2i\kappa \sin \omega\tau \cos \phi] - i\omega [\omega_R^2 + \kappa^2 (1 - 2 \cos \omega\tau + \cos 2\omega\tau)] \\
& + \kappa [-\omega_R^2 i \sin \omega\tau (\cos \phi - \alpha \sin \phi)]
\end{aligned} \tag{B-7}$$

Setting  $\text{Im}[D(\omega)] = 0$  gets

$$\begin{aligned}
& \omega^3 - \omega^2 [2\kappa \sin \omega\tau \cos \phi] - \omega [\omega_R^2 + \kappa^2 (1 - 2 \cos \omega\tau + \cos 2\omega\tau)] \\
& - \kappa [\omega_R^2 \sin \omega\tau (\cos \phi - \alpha \sin \phi)] = 0
\end{aligned} \tag{B-8}$$

Then,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \omega^3 - \omega\omega_R^2 = 2\kappa\omega^2 \sin \omega\tau \cos \phi + \omega\kappa^2 (1 - 2 \cos \omega\tau + \cos 2\omega\tau) \\
& + \kappa\omega_R^2 \sin \omega\tau (\cos \phi - \alpha \sin \phi)
\end{aligned}$$

or

$$\begin{aligned}
& \omega(\omega^2 - \omega_R^2) = 2\kappa\omega^2 \sin \omega\tau \cos \phi + \omega\kappa^2 (1 - 2 \cos \omega\tau + \cos 2\omega\tau) \\
& + \kappa\omega_R^2 \sin \omega\tau (\cos \phi - \alpha \sin \phi)
\end{aligned}$$

i.e.

$$\begin{aligned}
& \omega(\omega^2 - \omega_R^2) = \omega\kappa^2 (1 - 2 \cos \omega\tau + \cos 2\omega\tau) \\
& + \kappa\omega_R^2 \sin \omega\tau \{ [1 - 2(\frac{\omega}{\omega_R})^2] \cos \phi - \alpha \sin \phi \}
\end{aligned} \tag{B-9}$$

By inserting equation (B-6) into RHS of equation (B-9), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
& \omega(\omega^2 - \omega_R^2) = \omega\kappa^2 (1 - 2 \cos \omega\tau + \cos 2\omega\tau) \\
& + \kappa\omega_R^2 \sin \omega\tau [2 \frac{\omega\kappa}{\omega_R^2} \cdot \sin \omega\tau + \frac{\omega^2}{\kappa\omega_d^2} \cdot \frac{1}{1 - \cos \omega\tau}]
\end{aligned} \tag{B-10}$$

Divided by  $\omega$ , we get

$$\omega^2 - \omega_R^2 = \kappa^2 (1 - 2 \cos \omega\tau + \cos 2\omega\tau) + \kappa \omega_R^2 \sin \omega\tau \left[ 2 \frac{\kappa}{\omega_R^2} \cdot \sin \omega\tau + \frac{\omega}{\kappa \omega_d} \cdot \frac{1}{1 - \cos \omega\tau} \right]$$

Then,

$$\omega^2 - \omega_R^2 = \kappa^2 (1 - 2 \cos \omega\tau + \cos 2\omega\tau) + 2 \kappa^2 \cdot \sin^2 \omega\tau - \frac{\omega \cdot \omega_R^2}{\omega_d} \cdot \frac{\sin \omega\tau}{1 - \cos \omega\tau}$$

With  $\omega_d = \frac{\omega_R^2}{\gamma}$ , the damping frequency of relaxation oscillation of LD without EC, we get

$$\omega^2 - \omega_R^2 = \kappa^2 (1 - 2 \cos \omega\tau + \cos 2\omega\tau + 2 \sin^2 \omega\tau) - \frac{\omega \cdot \omega_R^2}{\left(\frac{\omega_R^2}{\gamma}\right)} \cdot \frac{2 \sin \frac{\omega\tau}{2} \cdot \cos \frac{\omega\tau}{2}}{2 \sin^2 \frac{\omega\tau}{2}} \quad (B-11)$$

Then,

$$\omega^2 - \omega_R^2 = \kappa^2 (2(1 - \cos \omega\tau) + \cos 2\omega\tau - (1 - 2 \sin^2 \omega\tau)) - \omega\gamma \cdot \cot \frac{\omega\tau}{2}$$

Using  $\cos 2\omega\tau = 1 - 2 \sin^2 \omega\tau$  leads

$$\omega^2 - \omega_R^2 = 4 \kappa^2 \sin^2 \frac{\omega\tau}{2} - \omega\gamma \cdot \cot \frac{\omega\tau}{2} \quad (B-12)$$

Therefore, equations (B-6) and (B-12) show the stability boundary.

The state becomes unstable when a zero of  $D(\omega)$  passes the imaginary axis. For the stable solutions the zeros of  $D(\omega)$  should lie on the left side of the imaginary axis. Then we have the stability solutions in equation (33) and (34).

## Appendix C

```
/* C PROGRAM */

#include <stdlib.h>
#include <stdio.h>
#include <math.h>

#define KP    4.8      /* gain saturation coefficient */
#define R1    0.999    /* facet reflectivity */
#define R2    0.995    /* facet reflectivity */
#define L     1.0e-6    /* laser cavity length */
#define NG    3.5      /* refractive index */
#define C     3.0e8     /* light velocity */
#define alfs   3.6e3    /* scattering loss coefficient */
#define TSP    2.0e-9   /* spontaneous emission lifetime */
#define NS     1.41372e9 /* carrier number to reach zero gain */
#define GN     2.2e3    /* gain coefficient */
#define A      4.0      /* linewidth enhancement factor */
#define DL     0.0      /* simulation initial time */
#define DH     4e-8     /* simulation final time 10ns */
#define J      0.87e18   /* injection number */
#define INTERVAL 1000    /* data printout interval */
#define STEPS  4000000   /* steps number in (0,10ns) */

void odelong();
void rk5();
void diff();
void FB();
void nrerror();
void free_vector();
void derivs();
double *vector();

double FEXT,LEXT,TP,alpha,P;
int delay;

main()
{
    long nvar, i;
    double x1, x2, h1, *y;

    alpha = alfs-log(R1*R2)/(2.0*L);
    TP = NG/(C*alpha);
    P = -0.5*(6.63e-34*C/966e-9)*(log(R1*R2)/(2.0*L))*(C/NG); /*wavelength 966nm*/
}
```

```

nvar=3;
x1=DL;
x2=DH;

h1=(x2-x1)/STEPS;    /* step size */

y=vector(1, nvar);
y[1]=1000.0;          /* y[1] I(0) */
y[2]=0.0;             /* y[2] Q  */
y[3]=NS;              /* y[3] N(0) */
    printf("Input the value of FEXT ==>");
    scanf("%lf",&FEXT);
    printf("Input the value of LEXT ==>");
    scanf("%lf",&LEXT);

    delay=2.0*LEXT/C/h1;

printf(" P=%e \n", P);
printf(" J=%e \n", J);
printf(" delay=%d \n", delay);
printf(" FEXT=%1.4f \n",FEXT );
printf(" LEXT=%2.2f mm \n", LEXT*1e3);

odelong(y, nvar, x1, x2, h1, derivs, rk5);
}

void nrerror(error_text) /* error handle */
char error_text[];

{
    void exit();
    fprintf(stderr, " numerical run-time error ... \n");
    fprintf(stderr, "%s \n", error_text);
    fprintf(stderr, " ...exiting to system ... \n"); exit(1);
}

double *vector(nl, nh)
long nl, nh;
/* allocates a double vector with range [ 1 .. nvar] */
{
    double *v;
    v=(double *)malloc((unsigned) (nh-nl+1)*sizeof(double));
    if (!v)
        nrerror("allocation failure in vector()");
    return v-nl;
}

```

```

void free_vector(v, nl, nh)
double *v;
long nl, nh;
/* frees a double vector allocated by vector() */
{
    free((char*) (v+nl));
}

void derivs(x, y, v, dydx)
/* y1=S, y2=Q, y3=N
   differential equation */

double x, y[], v[], dydx[];
{
    double CL, TO, K, temp1, ss, Q;
/* double CL, TO, K, temp1, ss, Q, R1; */

    CL=0.5*(1-R2)/sqrt(R2);
    TO=2*L*NG/C;
    K=2*CL*sqrt(FEXT)/TO;
    temp1=GN*(y[3]-NS);

    ss=temp1*(1-KP*P*y[1])-1/TP;

    Q= -atan(A)+y[2]-v[2];

    dydx[1]=ss*y[1]+2*K*sqrt(y[1])*sqrt(v[1])*cos(Q);

    dydx[2]=0.5*A*temp1-K*sqrt(v[1])*sin(Q)/sqrt(y[1]);

    dydx[3]=J-y[3]/TSP-temp1*(1-KP*P*y[1])*y[1];
}

void odelong(ystart, nvar, x1, x2, h1, derivs, rk5)
double ystart[], x1, x2, h1;
long nvar;
void(*derivs)(); /* ANSI: void(*derivs)(double,double *,double *); */
void(*rk5)();
/* runge-kutta integrate starting values ystart[1, nvar] from x1 to x2,
   h1 should be set as stepsize.
   derivs routine for calculate the right-hand side derivative, while rk5
   is the name of the stepper routine to be used */

{
    long i, k, step;

```

```

double x, h;
double *y, *v, *dydx, *yout, *e1, *e2, *vector();
void nrerror(), free_vector();

y=vector(1, nvar);
v=vector(1, nvar-1);
dydx=vector(1, nvar);
yout=vector(1,nvar);
h=h1;

e1=vector(1, STEPS+1); /* data storage for S(t) */
e2=vector(1, STEPS+1); /* data storage for phase */

printf(" h=%5.10e \n", h);
printf(" max-step=%d \n", STEPS);
printf(" step-delay=%d \n", delay);

for (i=1; i<=nvar; i++)
    y[i]=ystart[i];
    x=x1;
    v[1]=0.0;
    v[2]=0.0;

for (step=1; step <= STEPS; step++) {

    e1[step]=y[1];
    e2[step]=y[2];
    if(step <= delay )
    {
        v[1]=0.0;
        v[2]=0.0;
    }
    else
    {
        v[1]=e1[step-delay];
        v[2]=e2[step-delay];
    }

    (*derivs)(x, y, v, dydx);
    rk5(y, v, dydx, nvar, x, h, e1, e2, step, yout, derivs, diff, FB);

    x=x+h;
    for (i=1; i<=nvar; i++)
        y[i]=yout[i];

}

e1[step]=y[1];
e2[step]=y[2];

```

```

    x=x1;

    for (i=0; i<STEPS/INTERVAL; i++) /* print out the datas */
    {
        k=INTERVAL*i+1;
        /* printf(" x=%e \t", x); */
        printf(" %e \t", x);
        printf(" %5.3f\n", e1[k]*P*1e3);
        x=x+INTERVAL*h;
    }

    /* printf(" x=%e \t", x); */
    printf(" %e \t", x);
    printf(" %5.3f\n", e1[k]*P*1e3);
/*    fprintf(fp, " %e \t", x); */
/*    fprintf(fp, " %5.3f\n", e1[k]*3.6e-5); */

    free_vector(e1, 1, STEPS+1);
    free_vector(e2, 1, STEPS+1);
    free_vector(y, 1, nvar);
    free_vector(v, 1, nvar-1);
    free_vector(yout, 1, nvar);
    free_vector(dydx, 1, nvar);
}

void rk5(y, v, dydx, n, x, h, e1, e2, step, yout, derivs, diff, FB)
double y[], v[], dydx[], x, h, yout[], e1[], e2[];
void (*derivs)(); /* ANSI: void (*derivs)(double,double *,double *); */
void (*diff)();
void (*FB)();
long n, step;
/* given values for n variables y[1,n] and their derivatives dydx[1,n] known
at x, use the fifth order Runge-Kutta method to advance the solution over
an interval h and return the incremented variables as yout[1,n]. which need
not be a distinct array from y. the user supplies the routine derivs(x,y,dydx)
which return derivatives dydx at x. */

{
    long i;
    double *v1,*F1, *F2, *F3, *F4, *F5, *F6, *dydxt, *ytemp, *vector();
    double *S,*T;
    void free_vector();

    F1=vector(1, n);
    F2=vector(1, n);
    F3=vector(1, n);
    F4=vector(1, n);
    F5=vector(1, n);

```



```

F6=vector(1, n);
ytemp=vector(1, n);
dydxt=vector(1, n);

S=vector(1,5);
T=vector(1,5);
v1=vector(1,1);

if (step>delay)
{
  (*diff)(h,step,e1,S);
  (*diff)(h,step,e2,T);
}

for (i=1; i<=n; i++)
  F1[i]=h*dydx[i];      /* first step */
for(i=1; i<=n; i++)
  ytemp[i]=y[i]+0.5*F1[i];

if (step>delay)
{
  (*FB)(0.5*h,step,S,e1,v1);
  v[1]=v1[1];
  (*FB)(0.5*h,step,T,e2,v1);
  v[2]=v1[1];
}

  (*derivs)(x+0.5*h, ytemp, v, dydxt); /* second step */

for(i=1; i<=n; i++)
  F2[i]=h*dydxt[i];
for(i=1; i<=n; i++)
  ytemp[i]=y[i]+0.25*F1[i]+0.25*F2[i];

  if (step>delay)
  {
    (*FB)(0.5*h,step,S,e1,v1);
    v[1]=v1[1];
    (*FB)(0.5*h,step,T,e2,v1);
    v[2]=v1[1];
  }

  (*derivs)(x+0.5*h, ytemp, v, dydxt);

for(i=1; i<=n; i++)
  F3[i]=h*dydxt[i];      /* third step */
for(i=1; i<=n; i++)
  ytemp[i]=y[i]-F2[i]+2.0*F3[i];

```

```

if (step>delay)
{
    v[1]=e1[step-delay+1];
    v[2]=e2[step-delay+1];
}

(*derivs)(x+h, ytemp, v, dydxt);
for (i=1; i<=n; i++)
    F4[i]=h*dydxt[i];          /* fourth step */
for (i=1; i<=n; i++)
    ytemp[i]=y[i]+7.0*F1[i]/27.0+10.0*F2[i]/27.0+F4[i]/27.0;

if (step>delay)
{
    (*FB)(2.0*h/3.0,step,S,e1,v1);
    v[1]=v1[1];
    (*FB)(2.0*h/3.0,step,T,e2,v1);
    v[2]=v1[1];
}

(*derivs)(x+2.0*h/3.0, ytemp, v, dydxt);

for (i=1; i<=n; i++)
    F5[i]=h*dydxt[i];          /* fifth step */

for (i=1; i<=n; i++)
    ytemp[i]=y[i]+28.0*F1[i]/625.0-0.2*F2[i]+546.0*F3[i]/625.0+54.0*F4[i]/625.0-378.0*F5[i]/625.0;

if (step>delay)
{
    (*FB)(0.2*h,step,S,e1,v1);
    v[1]=v1[1];
    (*FB)(0.2*h,step,T,e2,v1);
    v[2]=v1[1];
}

(*derivs)(x+0.2*h, ytemp, v, dydxt);

for (i=1; i <=n; i++)
    F6[i]=h*dydxt[i];          /* sixth step */
for (i=1; i<=n; i++)
    yout[i]=y[i]+F1[i]/24.0+5.0*F4[i]/48.0+27.0*F5[i]/56.0+125.0*F6[i]/336.0;

free_vector(dydxt, 1, n);
free_vector(ytemp, 1, n);
free_vector(F6, 1, n);
free_vector(F5, 1, n);
free_vector(F4, 1, n);
free_vector(F3, 1, n);
free_vector(F2, 1, n);

```

```

    free_vector(F1, 1, n);

    free_vector(S, 1, 5);
    free_vector(T, 1, 5);
    free_vector(v1, 1, 1);
}

void FB(h, step, S1, S2, v1)
double h, S1[], S2[], v1[];
long step;

/* Taylor-series expansions
   Found the feedback value between t and t+h */
{
    v1[1] = S2[step-delay] + S1[1]*h + S1[2]*h*h/2.0 + S1[3]*h*h*h/6.0 + S1[4]*h*h*h*h/24.0 + S1[5]*h*h*h*h*h/120.0;
}

void diff(h, step, S3, S4)
double h, S3[], S4[];
long step;

/* numerical differentiation :
   if step <= delay+3 : using Forward-Difference Expressions with Error of
                       Order h*h
   if step > delay+3 : using Central-difference Expressions with Error of
                       Order h*h*h*h
*/
{
    long i;

    i = step-delay;

    if (step > delay+3)
    {
        S4[1] = (-S3[i+2] + 8*S3[i+1] - 8*S3[i-1] + S3[i-2]) / (12*h);
        S4[2] = (-S3[i+2] + 16*S3[i+1] - 30*S3[i] + 16*S3[i-1] - S3[i-2]) / (12*h*h);
        S4[3] = (-S3[i+3] + 8*S3[i+2] - 13*S3[i+1] + 13*S3[i-1] - 8*S3[i-2] + S3[i-3]) / (8*h*h*h);
        S4[4] = (-S3[i+3] + 12*S3[i+2] - 39*S3[i+1] + 56*S3[i] - 39*S3[i-1] + 12*S3[i-2] - S3[i-3]) / (6*h*h*h*h);
    }
}

```

```

else
{
S4[1]=(-S3[i+2]+4*S3[i+1]-3*S3[i])/(2*h) ;

S4[2]=(-S3[i+3]+4*S3[i+2]-5*S3[i+1]+2*S3[i])/(h*h) ;

S4[3]=(-3*S3[i+4]+14*S3[i+3]-24*S3[i+2]+18*S3[i+1]-5*S3[i])/(2*h*h*h) ;

S4[4]=(-2*S3[i+5]+11*S3[i+4]-24*S3[i+3]+26*S3[i+2]-14*S3[i+1]+3*S3[i])
/(h*h*h*h) ;
}
}

```

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